

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 DPW-01 EUR-25 AID-20 ACDA-19

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 RSR-01 /146 W

----- 072266

O 300053 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2331

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 9478

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR 1 MAY 28 1973

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM AMCONSUL DANANG DATED MAY 28  
IS REPEATED HERE FOR YOUR ACTION/ INFO:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 588

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJ: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR I, X PLUS 120  
MAY 28, 1973

### 1. SECURITY SITUATION:

LEVEL OF COMBAT ACTIVITY REMAINED LOW THROUGHOUT MR I  
DURING THE 3- DAY REPORTING PERIOD. ALTHOUGH PRESSURE  
CONTINUED AGAINST FRIENDLY POSITIONS NORTHWEST AND WEST  
OF HUE, THE FOCUS OF ACTIVITY HAS PASSED FOR THE TIME  
BEING TO THE NGHIA HANH- MINH LONG ROAD AREA IN QUANG NGAI.  
FOLLOWING ARE STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD ACCORDING TO  
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THE DAY THEY WERE BRIEFED AT I CORPS:

MAY 26 - 13 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS CONSISTING OF 2 GROUND ATTACKS, 10 ATTACKS BY FIRE ( ABF) INCLUDING 455 MORTAR ROUNDS, AND 1 HARASSING INCIDENT. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE 4 KIA, 17 WIA; ENEMY: 14 KIA, 5 RETURNEES. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED 1902 ROUNDS; 598 NORTH OF HAI VAN PASS, 1304 SOUTH.

MAY 27 - THERE WERE 10 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS CONSISTING OF 2 GROUND ATTACKS, 6 AFB (141 MORTAR ROUNDS), AND 2 HARASSING INCIDENTS. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES WERE 5 KIA, 1 MIA, 19 WIA. ENEMY: 23 KIA, 1 CAPTURED. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED 1407 ROUNDS, 410 NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 997 SOUTH (927 BY ARVN 2 D DIV).

MAY 28 - VIOLATIONS INCREASED TO 20 INCLUDING, 15 ABF (4 ROCKET, 228 MORTAR), AND 5 HARASSING INCIDENTS. CASUALTIES WERE FRIENDLY 5 KIA, 19 WIA. ENEMY: 5 KIA, 2 CAPTURED. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED 1016 ROUNDS, 372 NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 644 SOUTH.

2. ICCS:

A. ON MAY 24 THE ICCS CHU LAI SUB- REGION TEAM, WITH ALL FOUR CHIPDELS PARTICIPATING, INVESTIGATED AN INCIDENT IN WHICH SNIPERS FIRED ON A LAMBRETTA VEHICLE CARRYING SEVERAL BUDDHIST BONZES ON MAY 16 ABOUT THREE KILOMETERS NORTH OF DUC PHO DISTRICT TOWN, QUANG NGAI. ALTHOUGH EACH REPRESENTATIVE ON THE ICCS TEAM LOOKED AT A BULLET PARTIALLY IMBEDDED IN THE VEHICLE, POLDEL AND HUNGDEL MEMBERS REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE HAVING SEEN THE BULLET BY THE TIME THE CHIPDELS HAD RETURNED TO CHU LAI. CONSEQUENTLY, CANDEL CHU LAI REPRESENTATIVES TOLD POLOFF QUANG NGAI, THEY WILL SEEK TO NOTE FIRM ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF IMPORTANT EVIDENCE ON THE SITE IN FUTURE INVESTIGATIONS.

B. FOLLOWING THE INVESTIGATION ON MAY 21 IN THI PHO HAMLET BY THE FOUR CHIPDELS OF THE ICCS CHU LAI TEAM ( REF DANANG 571) THE CANDEL AS CURRENT CHAIRMAN DRAFTED THE REPORT. POLOFF QUANG NGAI REPORTS THAT OF THE FOUR POINTS IN THE SUMMARY, CANDEL/ INDODEL AGREED TO ALL, POLDEL AGREED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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THREE AND HUNGDEL AGREED TO NONE. THE ONLY POINT ON WHICH THE POLES DIVERGED WAS, OF COURSE, THAT WHICH INDICATED THE PRG WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR A VIOLATION. DURING THE INVESTIGATION ITSELF, POLDEL CHALLENGED THE VERACITY OF THE INTERPRETER AND HIS TRANSLATION OF WHAT THE WITNESSES WERE SAYING. POLOFF COMMENT: THE CANADIANS ARE FINDING MORE POLISH COOPERATION IN MAKING THE FORMS OF INVESTIGATION WORK NOW. POLISH

TACTICS AT THE SITE, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO BE AGGRESSIVELY CHALLENGING TOWARD EVIDENCE AGAINST THE PRG AND THEIR CONCLUSIONS RELY ON TECHNICALITIES TO AVOID BRANDING THE PRG. END COMMENT.

C. SENIOR CANDEL OF THE ICCS HOI AN SUB- REGION TTEAM TOLD POLOFF QUANG NAM THAT WHILE THE HUNGDEL CONTINUED TO BE UNCOMPROMISING AS TO DETERMINATIONS ABOUT ALMOST ANY INVESTIGATIVE EVIDENCE, POLDELS ARE ATTEMPTING TO REACH COMPROMISES ON WHICH ALL CHIPDELS COULD AGREE, SHORT OF DETERMINING A PRG VIOLATION. SENIOR CANDEL MAJOR BURNS NOTED THAT IN THREE EXTENDED SESSIONS DISCUSSING THE SON THANH VILLAGE ROCKETING ( REF DANANG 580) POLDEL ALMOST HAD INDODEL AND BURNS HIMSELF AGREEING TO POLISH POSITION THAT THE DIRECTION OF FIRE WAS NOT CLEAR.

D. POLOFF HUE, NOTES THAT THE NEW SENIOR HUNGDEL OF ICCS REGION I, LTC G. GYARACKI, IS MUCH MORE IN COMMAND OF THE SITUATION THAN HIS PREDECESSOR. GYARACKI IS BECOMING QUITE SARCASTIC ABOUT THE CANADIANS. ALTHOUGH THE FORMS OF HIS CRITICISM ARE RELATED TO THE CANADIANS' SEEMING TO HAVE THE BEST OF LIVING CONDITIONS AMONG THE CHIPDELS IN HUE, THIS WAS THE FIRST OCCASION POLOFF HUE HAD HEARD SUCH AN OPENLY EXPRESSED BITTERNESS ON THE PART OF THE HUNGARIANS OR POLES TOWARD THE CANADIANS THERE. HOWEVER, POLES AND HUNGARIANS ALSO CLAIM CANADIANS ARE HOLDING UP DEPLOYMENT TO GIO LINH ( TRUC LAM) AND LAO BAO.

### 3. FRIENDLY MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE FOLLOWING FIGURES FOR THE CORPS-WIDE REDUCTION IN PF PLATOONS:

QUANG TRI - 34  
THUA THIEN - 16  
DANANG - 6  
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QUANG NAM - 19  
QUANG TIN - 12  
QUANG NGAI - 13  
TOTAL REDUCTION - 100 PLATOONS  
CONGEN COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE REDUCTION OF 100 PF PLATOONS MEANS, IN PRINCIPLE, THE  
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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON09478  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730555/aaaajvmy.tel  
**Line Count:** 160  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <10-Oct-2001 by willialc>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980306  
**Subject:** CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR 1 MAY 28 1973  
**TAGS:** PINS, MILI, PINT  
**To:** EA  
JEC PARIS  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005